



Combat Airlifter

ROCKI 20-01 readies warriors

Pages 8-10



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY 1ST LT. JESSICA CICCHETTO

Aircrew members from the 61st Airlift Squadron walk toward a simulated decontamination area during Phase IIB of ROCKI 20-01 at Little Rock Air Force Base on Nov. 16. Phase II was divided into two sub-Phases: Phase IIA stressed Airmen's ability to survive and operate in a simulated chemical environment; Phase IIB stressed their ability to survive and operate in a simulated radiological environment.



ROCKI 20-01, INSIDER'S

PERSPECTIVE: THE CHAPLAIN

U.S. Air Force Chaplain (Capt.) Jonathan Black, 19th Mission Support Group chaplain, and U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Nathaniel Morgan 19th Airlift Wing religious affairs Airman, kept a pulse on the morale and well-being of Airmen during ROCKI 20-01.

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BIOENVIRONMENTAL PAVES WAY FOR RADIOLOGICAL OPERATIONS

The 19th Operational Medical Readiness Squadron Bioenvironmental Flight led the way during November's ROCKI 20-01, a multiple-Phase full spectrum readiness exercise, by providing essential information to commanders about the effects chemical and radiological

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19TH AW DEMONSTRATES DISTRIBUTED OPERATIONS

Airmen from the 19th Airlift Wing flew to Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, held from Nov. 15 through 17 to demonstrate distributed operations as a part of ROCKI 20-01, the wing's semiannual full spectrum readiness exercise.

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ROCKI 20-01, INSIDER'S PERSPECTIVE THE CHAPLAIN

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
AIRMAN 1ST CLASS AARON IRVIN
19TH AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Beginning on Nov. 4, more than 500 Airmen from Little Rock Air Force Basetackled a full-spectrum readiness exercise to ensure Airmen are prepared to perform the necessary tasks in a highly contested environment.

Although simulated, operating in a deployed location can be challenging for Airmen. This is where U.S. Air Force Chaplain (Capt.) Jonathan Black, 19th Mission Support Group chaplain, came into play. Throughout the exercise, Black, alongside U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Nathaniel Morgan, 19th Airlift Wing religious affairs Airman, kept a pulse on the morale and well-being of Airmen during ROCKI 20-01.

"Our mission is to provide First Amendment rights to all Airmen around the camp," Black said. "We have also been doing a lot of unit engagement, ensuring morale is high, while making sure all emotional and spiritual needs are met."

Each day Black and Morgan traversed the simulated deployed encampment, delivering hand warmers, food, and reading material while checking on the well-being of every Airman.

"It doesn't matter what location or environment we are in — being a chaplain is a people profession,"

See Chaplain, 6

U.S. Air Force Chaplain (Capt.) Jonathan Black, 19th Mission Support Group chaplain, checks on Airmen during Phase II of ROCKI 20-01 at Little Rock Air Force Base on Nov. 16. Throughout the exercise, Black kept a pulse on the morale and well-being of Airmen.

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COMBAT AIRLIFTER OF THE WEEK



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. DANA J. CABLE

NAME AND RANK

1st Lt. Tracey Koncelik

UNIT

19th Mission Support Group

DUTY TITLE

Executive officer

HOMETOWN

Akron, Indiana

TIME IN SERVICE

9 years

TIME AT LITTLE ROCK

3 years, 6 months

GOALS

Completing her master's degree, exercising regularly and preparing for deployment

HOBBIES

Hanging out with her daughter and participating in Battlin' Betties

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During the end of the fiscal year, Koncelik filled in as the 19th Contracting Squadron's director of business operations, which is traditionally a GS-14 billet, ensuring Little Rock Air Force Base was successful in the execution of over 25 million dollars and reaching all of the small business goals established by Air Mobility Command.



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Airmen from the 19th Airlift Wing perform decontamination protocol during a simulated radiological aircraft recovery effort during Phase IIB of ROCKI 20-01 at Little Rock Air Force Base on Nov. 16. Phase II was divided into two sub-Phases: Phase II-A stressed Airmen's ability to survive and operate in a simulated chemical environment; Phase II-B stressed their ability to survive and operate in a simulated radiological environment.



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY 1ST LT. JESSICA CICHETTO

BIOENVIRONMENTAL PAVING THE WAY FOR RADIOLOGICAL OPERATIONS

STORY BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS JAYDEN FORD
19TH AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The 19th Operational Medical Readiness Squadron Bioenvironmental Flight led the way during November's ROCKI 20-01, a multiple-Phase full spectrum readiness exercise, by providing essential information to commanders about the effects chemical and radiological hazards have on Airmen.

The team's efforts were tested during Phase II of the exercise. Phase IIA consisted of simulated chemical threats and Phase IIB involved operating in a simulated radiological environment. Bioenvironmental Airmen had to make determinations on what protective measures should be taken in order for Airmen to safely continue operations.

"As bioenvironmental engineers, our ultimate goal is to optimize the performance of Airmen through their health," said 1st Lt. Santino Cozza, 19th OMRS bioenvironmental engineer.

Radiological and chemical hazards are potential threats to Airmen in contingency operations. While protecting assets during such threats is

See Bioenvironmental, 7



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS JAYDEN FORD

Two Airmen from the 19th Operational Medical Readiness Squadron Bioenvironmental Flight, prepare to inspect a C-130J Super Hercules during a simulated radiological aircraft recovery during Phase II-B of ROCKI 20-01 at Little Rock Air Force Base on Nov. 16. Phase II-B marked the first time the radiological domain was tested as a portion of the exercise.



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN KRISTINE M. GRUWELL

Exercise participants from the 19th Airlift Wing receive a briefing on radiological protection procedures during Phase II of ROCKI 20-01 at Little Rock Air Force Base on Nov. 15.



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY 1ST LT. JESSICA CICHETTO

Airmen from the 19th Airlift Wing perform decontamination protocol during a simulated radiological aircraft recovery effort during Phase II-B of ROCKI 20-01 at Little Rock Air Force Base on Nov. 16.



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS JAYDEN FORD

An Airman from the 19th Civil Engineer emergency management uses Alpha Probe-100 to monitor aircrew members for the presence of alpha radiation contamination as part of a simulated decontamination effort during Phase II-B of ROCKI 20-01 at Little Rock Air Force Base on Nov. 16.

Chaplain

Continued from page 2

Black said. "We listen, take care of, and provide for people — that can be done anywhere, any time."

Chaplains are critical in the pursuit of mental, social, and spiritual needs of Airmen completing three of the four pillars of Comprehensive Airman Fitness.

"Black and Morgan have provided excellent unit support during ROCKI 20-01," said U.S. Air Force Chaplain (Lt. Col.) David Knight, 19th AW wing chaplain. "Their role has been indispensable to the spiritual morale of exercise participants."

With an ever-changing Air Force, this exercise offered Airmen a way to experience new responsibilities and challenges that could be encountered in an austere and contested environment.

"I really enjoy these exercises because it allows me to talk to Airmen from all different backgrounds at a larger volume," Black said. "It builds camaraderie and a relationship that invites Airmen to open up and be more likely to come talk to me if they encounter any problems."



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS AARON IRVIN

U.S. Air Force Chaplain (Capt.) Jonathan Black, 19th Mission Support Group chaplain, speaks with U.S. Air Force Airman Steven Heckman, 19th Security Forces Squadron defender, at the entry control point during Phase II of ROCKI 20-01 at Little Rock Air Force Base on Nov. 16. Black frequently traversed the simulated deployed encampment, delivering hand warmers, food, and reading material, while checking on the well-being of every Airman.



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U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS AARON IRVIN

U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Jajuan Erby, 19th Operational Medical Readiness Squadron bioenvironmental technician, uses a high volume air sampler to test simulated radiation in the air during Phase II of ROCKI 20-01 at Little Rock Air Force Base on Nov. 13. During the exercise, Airmen were tested on their ability to survive and operate within a simulated chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear environment.

Bioenvironmental

Continued from page 5

vital to mission success, the 19th OMRS Bioenvironmental Engineer Flight protects the Air Force's most important assets – Airmen.

“We care about the human aspect and what happens to the body when it is exposed to things like chemicals and radiation,” said Staff Sgt. Crystal Przybylski, 19th OMRS bioenvironmental engineer. “We determine how long it will take for your body to start degrading in any aspect, whether it's acute radiation sickness, burns or long term chronic effects that you might feel down the road.”

The dangers of radiation exposure makes the push for radiological readiness essential for sustaining the mission in any environment.

“Our role becomes extremely vital in a radiological situation,” Cozza said. “Radiation isn't something that you can

smell or feel — it interacts with you on a cellular level.”

Phase II-B of ROCKI 20-01 put the team's radiological capabilities to the test, being the first time it has been implemented into an exercise at Little Rock AFB.

“To detect radiation, you need to have very specialized equipment,” Cozza said. “We have that equipment and have the capability of using it, understanding what it is reading, interpreting the results, and ultimately finding out the biological effects that will occur.”

While the exercise only simulated a radiological environment during contingency operations, potential real-world threats stand as a constant reminder of the importance of being able to perform in any condition.

“A lot of people don't understand radiation,” Cozza said. “We are stepping into this period where dealing with radiation could potentially become a reality. It is important to recognize the threat that is out there, adapt to it, and be ready to overcome it.”

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U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS AARON IRVIN

During Phase II of ROCKI 20-01 a loadmaster from the 41st Airlift Squadron confirms cargo can be loaded onto a C-130J Super Hercules at Arkansas International Airport, Nov. 14, 2019. During the exercise, Airmen were tested on their ability to survive and operate within a simulated chemical and radiological environment.



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS MARIAM K. SPRINGS

Airmen from the 19th Medical Group quickly transport a simulated patient during Phase II of ROCKI 20-01 at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, Nov. 15, 2019. Airmen were tested on their ability to survive and operate within a simulated chemical and radiological environment during Phase II of the full spectrum readiness exercise.

Aircrew members from the 41st Airlift Squadron walk toward a simulated decontamination area during Phase IIB of ROCKI 20-01 at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, Nov. 16, 2019. Phase II was divided into two sub-Phases: Phase IIA stressed Airmen's ability to survive and operate in a simulated chemical environment; Phase IIB stressed their ability to survive and operate in a simulated radiological environment. (U.S. Air Force photo by 1st Lt. Jessica Cicchetto)



READY WARRIORS

ROCKI 20-01 wraps up

STORY BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS MARIAM K. SPRINGS
19TH AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The landing gear comes down as the nearly 113-foot C-130J Super Hercules prepares to bring the last of the Airmen home from their simulated deployment where tents, sleeping bags and Meals Ready to Eat were the way of life. These Airmen proved themselves to be Ready Warriors.

The 19th Airlift Wing full spectrum readiness exercise, ROCKI 20-01, came to a successful close Sunday at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas. The exercise provided the opportunity for 19th AW Airmen to prove their ability to project and sustain agile combat airlift in any environment.

“ROCKI 20-01 was a successful comprehensive exercise that tested and validated the 19th AW’s readiness skills in a contested environment,” said Maj. Kelly Franklin, 19th AW director of inspections. “It is important for Airmen to understand the process of moving into and sustaining operations in a deployed location in a quick and efficient manner.”

The exercise was divided into three distinct Phases, deliberately designed to test Airmen in different ways while honing their overall warfighting effectiveness.

“Phase I taught our Airmen how to task and expediently process over 500 personnel out the door and onto a plane in the least amount of time possible,” said Senior Master Sgt. Tiffany Sargent, wing inspection team lead for the 19th Mission Support Group. “This process is complicated and involves moving parts from several units for it to work. Perfecting it now ensures we get it right when supporting the fight down-range in the future.”

The exercise grew more intense as Airmen armed up with M4s and M9s using simulated rounds, and began to reinforce structures with sandbags in anticipation of upcoming simulated enemy attacks at the Realistic Training Area known as Camp Warlord— marking the beginning of Phase II.

See ROCKI, 10



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY 1ST LT. JESSICA CICHETTO

U.S. Air Force military working dog, Iwo Jima, and his handler, Senior Airman Ashley Evans conduct a simulated hostile traffic stop during Phase II of ROCKI 20-01 at Little Rock Air Force Base, Nov. 16. The full spectrum readiness exercise was divided into three distinct Phases, deliberately designed to test Airmen in different ways while honing their overall warfighting effectiveness.

ROCKI

Continued from page 9

“Simply learning your deployed job will not physically or mentally prepare you to deal with the stress of working long hours in difficult conditions, under fire and in your gear,” Sargent said. “Phase II accomplished this by pushing Airmen out of their comfort zones, teaching them to accomplish their mission while also dealing with realities of war.”

Ground threats and simulated occurrences of chemical and radiological contamination were a large part of this training.

“With the overwhelming threat of nuclear attacks from adversaries, it’s imperative that we prepare our Airmen to respond,” Sargent said. “Phase IIB focused on nuclear threats and our ability to quickly and decisively respond to them. Going forward, we’re really excited to see how the nuclear portion of the exercise will grow and expand.”

In a new twist for a ROCKI exercise, two C-130Js brought 30 Airmen and the supplies needed to survive in a simulated austere environment at their forward-deployed location – Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama. The operation tested the ability of combat airlift to provide rapid global mobility through the establishment and resupply of a distributed network of bare bases within a highly contested theater of operations.

“My job is to assist the wing commander and inspector general in planning and executing an effective and realistic exercise that allows Airmen from all Air Force Specialty Codes to practice and perfect their deployed mission before they’re faced with it down range,” said Sargent.

The semiannual exercise validated the 19th AW’s Ability to Survive and Operate within both chemical and radiological environments.

“ROCKI 20-01 demonstrated the 19th AW’s ability to project and sustain agile combat airlift within a highly contested theater of operations, as described by the National Defense Strategy,” said Col. John Schutte, 19th AW commander. “The 19 AW is committed to remaining at the leading edge of operational excellence. We are educating and training our Airmen so they are prepared to compete with adversaries in every domain — It’s why we call them Ready Warriors.”



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY 1ST LT. JESSICA CICCHETTO

U.S. Air Force 1st Lt. Santino Cozza, 19th Operational Medical Readiness Squadron bioenvironmental engineer, briefs deployed leadership in the Wing Operations Center on the radiological protection procedures during Phase II of ROCKI 20-01 at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, Nov. 15, 2015. Phase II was divided into two sub-Phases: Phase IIA stressed Airmen’s ability to survive and operate in a simulated chemical environment; Phase IIB stressed their ability to survive and operate in a simulated radiological environment.



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN KRISTINE M. GRUWELL

(Above) U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Taylor Moore, 19th Civil Engineer Squadron Explosive Ordnance Disposal team leader retrieves a simulated weapons cache during ROCKI 20-01 at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, Nov. 15, 2019. During the exercise, Airmen were tested on their ability to survive and operate within a simulated chemical and radiological environment.



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS AARON IRVIN

(Left) U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Brittany Coburn, 41st Airlift Squadron loadmaster, prepares to execute an airdrop over Arkansas during Phase II of ROCKI 20-01 at Little Rock Air Force Base, Nov. 14, 2019.



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST LT. JESSICA CICCHETTO

U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Robert Taulman, 19th Security Forces Squadron patrolman, prepares to fire his weapon as part of a simulated ground attack during ROCKI 20-01 at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, Nov. 17, 2019. During the exercise, Airmen were tested on their ability to survive and operate within a simulated chemical and radiological environment.



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS JAYDEN FORD

U.S. Air Force Special Agent Russ Ward provides simulated medical attention to Senior Airman Robert Taulman, 19th Security Forces Squadron patrolman, during ROCKI 20-01 at Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, Nov. 17, 2019.



Airmen from the 19th Airlift Wing marshal cargo onto a C-130J Super Hercules during the ROCKI 20-01 distributed operations exercise at Pope Field, North Carolina, on Nov. 16. This was the first dispersed basing scenario completed during a ROCKI exercise, and incorporated the unique facet of distributed operations.

TESTING STRENGTHS

19TH AW DEMONSTRATES DISTRIBUTED OPERATIONS

STORY AND PHOTOS BY SENIOR AIRMAN GRACE NICHOLS
19TH AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Airmen from the 19th Airlift Wing flew to Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, Nov. 15 through Nov. 17 to demonstrate distributed operations as a part of ROCKI 20-01, the wing's semiannual full spectrum readiness exercise.

The scenario tested the 19th AW's ability to successfully stand up and sustain dispersed airlift operations, using a team of 30 Airmen and two C-130J Super Hercules to conduct follow-on missions in a comm-degraded environment.

"I have confidence in our ability to go out and do the mission, which is projecting and sustaining agile combat airlift," said U.S. Air Force Maj. Matthew Coffey, 61st Airlift Squadron assistant director of operations and mission commander of the ROCKI 20-01 dispersed basing exercise. "What we have to do for this exercise is rapidly set up an airlift hub and be able to sustain it. That means keeping people fed, lodged and up to date on the intelligence in the theatre so they can go execute that mission to the highest level possible."

The operation tested the ability of combat airlift to provide rapid global mobility through the establishment and resupply of a distributed network of bare bases within a highly contested theater of operations.

This emerging concept added to the



U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Cesar Salas Morales, 41st Airlift Squadron loadmaster, observes take-off in a C-130J Super Hercules during the ROCKI 20-01 distributed operations exercise over Pope Field, North Carolina, on Nov. 16. The scenario demonstrated the 19th Airlift Wing's ability to successfully stand up and sustain dispersed basing capabilities with a team of 30 Airmen and two C-130J Super Hercules.

complexity of the ROCKI exercise and provided additional training opportunities for the 19th AW to validate wing readiness and prepare Airmen for potential operational requirements to overcome potential adversary's tactics.

"We can expect that against a near-peer

See Strengths, 12

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Strengths

Continued from page 11

adversary, their first actions will be to target our main centers of gravity and points of vulnerability," Coffey said. "We have to get ahead of their thinking and make sure that if they attack, we can disperse our assets to other locations so we're not an easy target."

Throughout this distributed operations mission, Airmen lived in tents, slept in sleeping bags, had minimal access to hygiene facilities, and ate Meals Ready to Eat for sustenance. This simulated the austere airfield environment expected in a dispersed basing scenario.

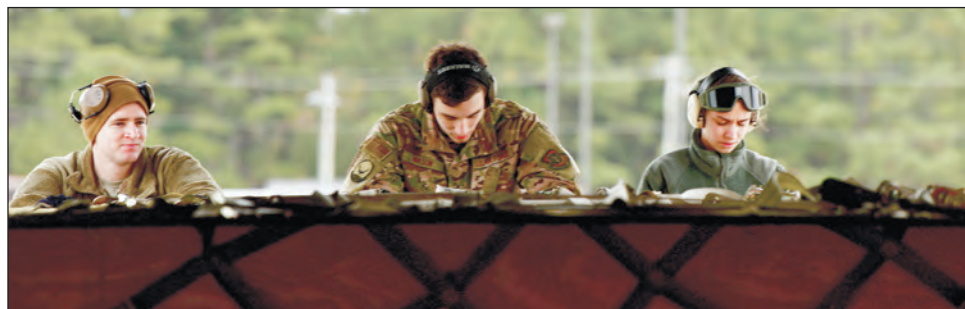
The team was tasked with performing a set number of sorties each day to neighboring bases, simulating supporting efforts during conflict, including on-loading and off-loading equipment and personnel.

The mission commander and his team were provided mission type order and then given freedom to decide how to execute. This tested the ability to operate independently, from intermediate bases, supporting contingency operations without reach-back communications.

"This scenario is focused on giving the mission commander the flexibility to execute commander's intent without being provided specific instructions," said U.S. Air Force Maj. Jared Jones, 19th AW Inspector General deputy director of inspections. "Exercises like this ROCKI provide our Airmen challenges and obstacles to overcome within a controlled environment, building the technical competencies and habits of thought necessary to defeat a thinking opponent."



Airmen from the 19th Airlift Wing perform post-flight inspections on a C-130J Super Hercules during the ROCKI 20-01 distributed operations exercise at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, on Nov. 15. Airmen flew to Maxwell AFB, Alabama, from Nov. 15 through Nov. 17 to demonstrate distributed operations in a comm-degraded environment as a part of the wing's semiannual full spectrum readiness exercise.



Airmen from Pope Field's 43rd Air Mobility Squadron load cargo onto a C-130J Super Hercules during the ROCKI 20-01 distributed operations exercise at Pope Field, North Carolina, on Nov. 16. Airmen from the 19th Airlift Wing were tasked with performing a set number of sorties each day to neighboring bases to simulate supporting efforts during contingency operations, including on-loading and off-loading equipment and personnel.



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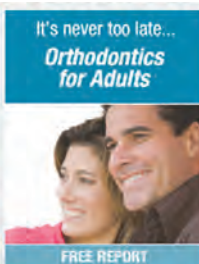
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